



# Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities Task Force

## NOTICE OF MEETING AND AGENDA

The Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities Task Force will meet on Wednesday, August 22, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. (EDT), at the Indiana University Southeast, University Center North – Hoosier Room, 4201 Grant Line Road, New Albany, Indiana, 47150.

Task Force Members Present: Lt. Governor Suzanne Crouch, Steve Cook, Joe Langerak, Nancy Holsapple, Kathy McAllen, Julie Reynolds, Kylee Hope, Rebecca Kasper, Christine Dahlberg, Kevin Moore, Jon Burlison, Kim Dodson, Jason Meyer, Shawn Fulton.

Absent: Trent Fox, Terry Stigdon (David Reed attended in her place), Allison Taylor (Joshua Bougie attended in her place), Sarah Renner (Dr. Steven Counsell attended in her place).

- I. Lt. Governor Suzanne Crouch calls meeting to order (11:00 a.m.)

Chancellor Ray Wallace welcomed everyone to the campus.

Lt. Governor Suzanne Crouch Recognized **Senator Ron Grooms**

Lt. Governor Suzanne Crouch **Recognized Representative Ed Clere**

- II. Introduction of Task Force Members

- III. Listening Session – Facilitated by Bettye Dunham, CEO, Rauch, Inc.  
(11:05 a.m. – 11:55 a.m.)

**Dawn Adams, Indiana Disability Rights, Executive Director, Indiana Disability Rights.**

IDR has submitted written comments that cover four systemic areas: abuse of people with disabilities, supported decision making, competitive integrated employment, and quality of education of students in state licensed facilities. There is a need for an adult abuse registry to combat the abuse of individuals. Indiana should implement a zero tolerance stand on abuse to protect individuals receiving services provided by our tax dollars. Twenty six states already have a system like this.

**Jim/James Steward, Parent of a resident at Hawthorne Glen.** Has a daughter who receives waiver services and she's happy. She lives at Hawthorne Glen and is thriving because of the services she's receiving. These services should continue to be provided.

**Jennifer Owens, Director of Family Services at Blue River Services, Inc.** She works with the early intervention program. The number of children being referred has increased 30%. There have been multiple rate cuts over the years. It's difficult to retain therapists. Provider recruitment and retention cannot keep pace. Existing staff are impacted because they have to serve higher caseloads. There needs to be a recommendation for an increase in funding for First Steps program to sustain and preserve the quality of services.



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**Rosemary Bland, Parent of a resident at Hawthorne Glen.** Her daughter is very happy living at Hawthorne Glen.

**Kim Perry, Director of Operations of Janitorial and IN-DOT State Use Programs at Blue River Services, Inc.** Acting as voice of concern regarding elimination of sheltered workshops. She provided a copy of the 14C application to the Task Force for their information.

**Diana Merzweiler, Family Member. Executive Director of Down Syndrome of Louisville.** Comments were around complete employment. They have developed an innovative program with Kentucky VR. It is a consultation model where they work with the employer to give training to the employers. Age 14 is when they begin their employment readiness training for students so they can develop into a great employee for the workforce. They would like to share the program with the Task Force. It has been shared with adult education program and around the country.

**Jeff Frady, Director, Benchmark.** Benchmark provides services to those living in group homes in Indiana. Jeff gave an overview of the different types of homes and what services are provided in these homes.

**David DeWitt, Parent and New Albany, Indiana.** His comments focused on his older autistic daughter who works in the sheltered workshop operated by Rauch, Inc. He spoke about the benefits of the workshop. Seeing the transition into adulthood is an important and scary moment for parents.

**David Terrell, OBRA Program Manager, DSI Services, Inc.** David gave an overview of the OBRA program. In 1987, Congress passed the Ombudsman Budget Reconciliation Act (OBRA). This meant anyone in a nursing facility wasn't eligible to receive Medicaid waiver services. This bill was put into place to help individuals with development disabilities living in nursing homes to be a part of their community services either through day programming or with one on one individual with staff. State line funding supports this.

**Laura Means, Parent.** Her 26 year old son Christopher works in the workshop at Rauch. He tried to work in the community but likes where he is at the workshop. Please don't take the workshops away.

**Amelia Williams, Director of Children's Services at Rauch, Inc.** There is a need for a rate increase for First Step Providers. There are challenges with recruitment and retention of therapists with the First Steps program. This impacts the quality of services and meeting the needs of individuals that they serve.



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**Connie Baugh, Parent of two children with disabilities.** Connie spoke about her experience having two children with disabilities and private insurance doesn't cover most of the services and they depend on the waiver. There is a need for more funding.

**Cathy Summers, Family Member of a resident at Hawthorn Glen.** It was her brother's choice to move out of his parents' home and into Hawthorn Glen. There are accessible vans, he loves to bowl and is having a great experience as he gets older. DSPs need more pay.

**Judy Fabel, Parent.** Judy shared about her 55 year old son, Joey, who lives in Hawthorn Glen with his best friend, Bob.

**Tony Euhler, Rauch, Inc.** Tony spoke about the value of work for people with disabilities.

**Kelly Mitchell, CEO of Sirs, Inc. and is the Chair of the Ability Indiana Board.** Kelly spoke about the importance of work for individuals with disabilities and gave brief overview of the Ability Indiana program.

**Jody Heazlitt, Executive Vice President, New Hope Services, Inc.** Jody spoke about the fact that there is too much oversight for adult services programs. The amount of administrative compliance is too much. In 2017, DDRS said there would be a workgroup. They would like to implement a more streamlined system for oversight.

**Joe Spoelker, Rauch, Inc.** He encouraged the Task Force as they move forward that keeping in mind choices for individuals rather than a broad brush solutions is key. Transportation is also another consideration to remember.

**Peg Pfeifer, Parent and Board member of Rauch, Inc.** Peg spoke about her daughter's life and good experience and working at Rauch's sheltered workshop.

**Listening session concluded.**

The Lt. Governor presented a certificate to Bettye Dunham, recognizing her years of unwavering advocacy and support of Hoosiers with disabilities

Patrick Cockrum, immediate past president of INARF Board presented "2018 INARF Advocate of the Year" Award to Indiana State Representative Ed Clere.

Representative Clere gave brief remarks.

- Break (15 minutes)



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- IV. Review and Approval of Minutes from July 18, 2018 Meeting  
Meeting minutes were approved.

## Presentation of Recommendations:

- V. **Reshaping Indiana's Supports and Services for People with IDD** - Kim Dodson, Executive Director of the Arc of Indiana
- Recommendation #1** *Adopted by Consensus.*  
Create a services and supports system that supports and promotes self-advocacy, independence and **informed** choice which leads to a good life.
- Recommendation #2:** WITHDRAWN
- Recommendation #3** *Held until AUGUST 29<sup>th</sup> meeting.*  
Create an array of employment options for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities to ensure informed choice that leads to a good life with independence and respect. The array of options should provide opportunities for people of all abilities to work in an environment that provides for growth, respect, preferences and interests.
- Recommendation #4** *Adopted by Consensus.*  
Create an array of living settings that support people with disabilities living in a setting of **informed** choice that allows them to enjoy their interests, hobbies and preferred lifestyle.
- VI. **Telehealth** - Jonathan Burlison, CEO, Bridges
- Recommendation #1** *Adopted by Consensus.*  
It is my recommendation to adopt that telehealth be approved as a viable and approved service delivery method for services as example: Behavior Management and Wellness Care.
- VII. **First Steps** – Kylee Hope (DDRS), Kim Dodson (The Arc), Steve Cook (INARF)
- Recommendation #1** *Held until AUGUST 29<sup>th</sup> meeting.*  
Due to increased referrals for early interventions services it requires that First Steps must be supported fiscally in order to sustain a quality early intervention program – and the children and families it serves moving forward.
- Recommendation #2** *Held until AUGUST 29<sup>th</sup> meeting.*  
First Steps must invest in its workforce to keep pace with demand. This means increasing the number of intake and service coordinators, evaluation and assessment providers, and ongoing service providers as well as paying them at a rate that is competitive and supports effective recruitment and retention.



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## VIII. **HCBS and Waiver Redesign** – Steve Cook, President & CEO of INARF/Ability Indiana

### **Recommendation #1** *Adopted by Consensus.*

DDRS will look at developing a Home and Community based waiver system that provides a full array of services and tiered supports to ensure flexibility of services and systems to meet the unique needs of all individuals served, accounting for age, family and community support systems, behavioral and mental health needs, and other health factors.

### **Recommendation #2** *Adopted by Consensus.*

DDRS to convene a group of diverse stakeholders to assist with waiver redesign.

### **Recommendation #3** *Held until AUGUST 29<sup>th</sup> meeting.*

Adopt the housing recommendations presented to the Task Force on June 27, 2018, by Jason Meyer, Passages, Inc. John Niederman, Pathfinder Services, Inc.; and Andy Rosenthal and Len Grabovsky, Terebinth Group, LLC.

### **Recommendation #4** *Adopted by Consensus.*

DDRS to encourage the use of technology in HCBS waiver service delivery.

## **Military Waiver Slots** – Jonathan Burlison, CEO, Bridges

### **Recommendation #1** *Adopted by consensus.*

We should encourage the support of our active duty and veteran military members in Indiana in obtaining services for their children with developmental disabilities. We support creating a priority status contingent on the waivers for children of active duty and veteran military families with the approval of CMS.

## IX. **Tying Funding to the Individual** – Jonathan Burlison, CEO, Bridges

### **Recommendation #1** *Held until AUGUST 29<sup>th</sup> meeting.*

DDRS provides a plan to eliminate ICF/IDD beds from the services model for individuals with disabilities and transition people into HCBS Waiver services within a 5 year time frame.

## X. **Improve Access to Services for Individuals with a Dual Diagnosis** – Kylee Hope (DDRS) and Kevin Moore (DMHA)

### **Recommendation #1** *Adopted by consensus.*

Indiana shall focus efforts on increasing access and improving the quality of services for individuals that are dually-diagnosed with an intellectual developmental disability and a mental health need. Such dual diagnosis efforts will include collaborative work with statewide systems including BDDS providers, DMHA, Community Mental Health Centers and DCS providers. This should include but not limit to:

- Increasing training and expertise across the state, inclusive of health care professionals, families and care givers.
- Improve access to specific services (particularly in rural areas) and explore innovative services options.



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- Improve provider capacity
- Ensure individualized approaches are used to address the complex needs of individuals and
- Ensure the health care delivery system is coordinated and integrated for individuals.

XI. **Workforce Crisis Creates Critical Gap in Services** – Kim Dodson (The Arc) and Steve Cook (INARF)

**Recommendation #1** *Held until AUGUST 29<sup>th</sup> meeting.*

Raise the average wage from \$11 to \$15 per hour by June 30, 2019 by funding an increase in base compensation coupled with an add-on Waiver rate for DSPs completing a state authorized training course that significantly enhances the DSPs skills.

**Recommendation #2** *Adopted by consensus.*

Include as Medicaid Waiver services peer specialists enabling experienced, trained people with IDD to support their fellow Hoosiers with disabilities.

**Recommendation #3:** *Adopted by consensus.*

Implement a self-directed care model in HCBS Waivers administered by DDRS for individuals to convert their shift model to a version that allows them to hire people they choose via a fiscal intermediary.

**Recommendation #4:** *Held until AUGUST 29<sup>th</sup> meeting.*

Expand waiver allowed activities relative to family caregivers by increasing the number of hours per week of DSP support to their adult family member.

**Recommendation #5:** *Adopted by consensus.*

Implement a registry listing direct care staff who the Division has determined have committed certain offenses that bar them from employment as a Developmental Disabilities employee in the state of Indiana.

**Recommendation #6:** *Held until AUGUST 29<sup>th</sup> meeting.*

Develop a central repository to track DSP training records and year of experience as a DSP.

**Recommendation #7:** *Adopted by consensus.*

Maximize incorporation of technology in the delivery of services to people with disabilities to increase individuals' access to community services and natural supports to assist in addressing the DSP workforce shortage.



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XII. Task Force Discussion/Additional Business

Next meeting of the Task Force will be to address new recommendations and the following:

Technology First

Shared Living Program

Full Array of Employment Options for Hoosiers with Intellectual and  
Developmental Disabilities Employment thought Ability One

Elimination of subminimum wage

Driverless Cars

There was additional conversation around other topics to be explored to be presented as recommendations for the next meeting.

- XIII. Next Meeting – Wednesday, August 29, 2018, 11:00 am (EDT)  
Indiana Government Center South  
Conference Room B  
402 West Washington Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

- XIV. Meeting adjourned